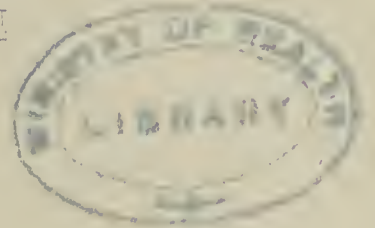


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1946.



To: -

- (1) The Mayor and Corporation of Stratford-on-Avon;
- (2) The Chairman and Members of the Stratford-on-Avon Rural District Council;
- (3) The Chairman and Members of the Shipston-on-Stour Rural District Council;
- (4) The Chairman and Members of the Alcester Rural District Council.

I beg to submit herewith my Annual Report for the year 1946.

In accordance with Circular 15/47 the Annual Report is on similar lines to those which have been issued during the war period, with the addition that I have been asked to give a survey of the water supplies for the district.

BOROUGH OF STRATFORD UPON-AVONEstimated Population - 15,550.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	121	130	251
Illegitimate	17	17	34

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population - 21.0

<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	6	3	9
Illegitimate	1		1

Rate per 1,000 (live and stillbirths) - 21.7

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	78	83	161

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population - 11.4

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

Puerperal Sepsis.....Nil
 Other Puerperal causes.....Nil

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

All infants per 1,000 live births.....28.0

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....Nil
 " " Whooping Cough (all ages).....Nil
 " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years).....One
 " " Cancer (all ages).....Twenty one

RURAL DISTRICT OF STRATFORD-ON-AVONEstimated Population - 16,680

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	172	121	293
Illegitimate	20	11	31

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population - 19.4

<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	4	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Birth rate per 1,000 (live and stillbirths) - 19.9

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	81	93	174

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population - 10.4

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

Puerperal Sepsis.....One
 Other Puerperal causes.....Nil

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR - All infants per 1,000 live
 births - 27.8

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894

1895

1896

1897

1898

1899

1900

1901

1902

1903

1904

1905

1906

1907

1908

1909

1910

1911

1912

1913

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....Nil
 " " Whooping Cough (all ages).....Nil
 " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years).....Nil
 " " Cancer (all ages).....Nineteen.

RURAL DISTRICT OF SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR.

Estimated Population - 7,800

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	75	68	143
Illegitimate	7	9	16

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population - 20.3

<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Rate per 1,000 (live and stillbirths) - 20.5

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	65	44	109

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population - 13.9

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

Puerperal Sepsis.....Nil
 Other Puerperal causes.....Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR - All infants per 1,000 live births - 44.0

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....Nil
 " " Whooping Cough (all ages).....Nil
 " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years).....Two
 " " Cancer (all ages).....Seventeen.

RURAL DISTRICT OF ALCESTER

Estimated Population - 12,450.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	108	99	207
Illegitimate	11	18	19

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population - 18.1

<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	80	56	136

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population - 10.9

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

Puerperal Sepsis.....Nil
 Other Puerperal causes.....Nil

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DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR - All Infants per 1,000 live
births - 26.5

DEATHS FROM MEASLES (all ages).....	Nil
" " WHOOPING COUGH (all ages).....	One
" " DIARRHOEA (under 2 years).....	One
" " CANCER (all ages).....	Twenty.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (AGE GROUPS)

BOROUGH OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

DISEASES	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Age un- k'n	To- tal	Adm- to Hosp.	D i e d
Scarlet Fever					1	8		1						10	10	
Whooping Cough	1	1	3	4	4	3								16		
Pneumonia		1				2	1	4	12	7	15	8		50	20	6
Erysipelas											3			3		
Diphtheria							1							1	1	
Dysentery								1						1	1	
Measles	1	1	5	2		6	5		1	1				19		
Recurrent Malaria									2					2	1	
Paratyphoid								1	1					2	2	
Polio-my- elitis									1					1	1	

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF STRATFORD-ON-AVON

[illegible]

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Age groups)THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR.

DISEASE	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-16	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Age un-k'n	Total	Adm. to Hosp.	Died
Scarlet Fever					1	2	2							5	5	
Pneumonia	2					1	1		2	1	4	4		15	3	
Measles						3	1							4	2	
Erysipelas									1					1		

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF ALCESTER

DISEASE	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Age un-k'n	Total	Adm. to Hosp.	Died
Scarlet Fever				1		1		2						8	8	
Whooping Cough	10	8	19	12	14	33	3			1		1		101		
Pneumonia				2	1	5		3	7	5	10	10		41	2	
Diphtheria						3	1		1					5	5	
Paratyphoid											1			1	1	
Cerebro Spinal Fever			1											1	1	1
Erysipelas									1		1	1		3		
Measles			1			2								3		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2													2		
Acute Poliomyelitis		1												1	1	
Sonne Dysentery						1	1		2	1	1			6		

During the year 18 members of His Majesty's Forces and Prisoners of War were treated in the Isolation Hospital, Stratford-on-Avon.

The following pathological specimens were submitted for examination during the year:-

Throat swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli	-	81
Sputum etc. for Tubercle Bacilli	-	73
Faeces examination for Dysentery	-	3
Blood for Widal's reaction	-	3
Chemical analysis of water	-	44
Bacteriological analysis of water	-	14
Chemical analysis of Sewage Effluents	-	16

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The percentage of children between the ages of 5-15 immunised in districts at the end of 1946 was:-

- Stratford-on-Avon Borough.....97.4
- Stratford-on-Avon Rural District....93.6
- Shipston-on-Stour Rural District....95.7
- Alcester Rural District.....95.4

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following tables show (1) the incidence of Tuberculosis and (2) deaths from Tuberculosis.

BOROUGH OF STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

Age Period	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
1 - 5			1					
6 - 10			1					
10 - 15								
15 - 20	2							
20 - 25		1						
25 - 35	4	2				1		
35 - 45	3				1	1		
45 - 55	1							
55 - 65		1				1		
65 and upwards								
Age unk'n.								
Total	10	4	2		1	3		

RURAL DISTRICT OF STRATFORD-ON-AVON

.6.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
1 - 5								
5 - 10			2					
10 - 15								
15 - 20								
20 - 25	1							
25 - 35	2	3	1	1			1	
35 - 45	1							
45 - 55	2							
55 - 65	1				2			
65 and upw'ds								
Age unk'n	1							
Total	8	3	3	1	2		1	

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
1 - 5								
5 - 10								
10 - 15	1		1	1				
15 - 20	1					1		
20 - 25	1	1						
25 - 35	1		2		1			
35 - 45			1					
45 - 55	1	1		1	1			
55 - 65								
65 and upw'ds								
Age unk'n								
Total	5	2	4	2	2	1		

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF ALCESTER

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
1 - 5			1				1	
5 - 10				1				
10 - 15								
15 - 20								
20 - 25	1							
25 - 35	1	1		1				
35 - 45	1							
45 - 55								
55 - 65								
65 and upwards								
Total	3	1	1	2			1	

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Stratford Borough		Stratford R.D.C.		Thipston R.D.C.		Alcester R.D.C.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Cerebro spinal fever							1	
Tuberculosis (resp.)	4	3	3		1	1	2	1
" (other)			1			1	2	
Whooping Cough							1	
Syphilitic Disease							1	
Ac. Inf. enceph.							1	
Cancer of buc.cav. and oesophagus						1		2
Cancer of stomach	2	2		1	2	1	2	1
Cancer of breast		4		1		3		1
Cancer of other sites	11	2	4	9	7	3	9	5
Diabetes				2	2	1		1
Intracranial vascular lesions	5	19	5	16	5	5	5	5
Heart disease	20	16	22	22	19	15	24	17
Carried forward	42	46	35	51	36	31	48	35

	Stratford Borough		Stratford R.D.C		Shipston R.D.C		Alcester R.D.C	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Brought forward	42	46	35	51	36	31	48	33
Other circ.diseases	6	13	3	5	1	4	4	4
Bronchitis	6	1	5	3	3	-	1	5
Pneumonia	4	2	4	7	2	1	1	2
Other resp.diseases		1		1			1	
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3		1	1		1	2	
Appendicitis						1		
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		1			2			1
Other digestive diseases		1	2	2	2		5	1
Nephritis	1	1	6		2	1	2	1
Premature birth	1		2	1	3			
Puer.& post abort.sepsis				1				
Con.mal.birth injury	1		3	1		2	1	1
Suicide	3	2	2				1	
Road traffic accidents	1	2	1		2		2	1
Other violent causes	3	3	1	3	2	1		3
All other causes	7	8	11	17	9	2	12	2
Totals	78	83	81	93	65	44	80	56

WATER SUPPLIES

BOROUGH OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

1. During the year the water supplies for domestic and industrial purposes have been satisfactory as regards both quality and quantity.
2. Quarterly bacteriological analyses have been made and these have on all occasions indicated that the water supply in the Borough is of a high standard of purity. The water is free from any tendency to plumbo-solvent action and the total hardness of 8 parts per 100,000 indicates a comparatively "soft" water.
3. With the exception of a few isolated farms and cottages water is laid on to all dwelling houses in the Borough. The proportion without such direct supply is estimated to be less than 1%.
4. In connection with post war housing schemes water mains were extended to one additional site during the year, namely, the Clopton Housing Estate, where house construction is now in progress. This site will accommodate up to 160 houses.

General.

The water supplies of the town are pumped from artesian boreholes at four sites, viz., Warwick Road, August Hill, Alveston Hill and Alcester Road respectively. The borehole at the last named site was brought into commission during the year.

Emergency chlorination instituted during the war has been continued during the past year.

Bulk supplies are afforded to the Stratford-upon-Avon Rural District Council for distribution in the parishes of Clifford Chambers, Luddington and Bishopton. During the year a scheme of main laying has been put in hand by the Rural District Council which will enable similar bulk supplies to be distributed in a number of parishes to the north of the Borough, namely, Snitterfield, Bearley, Pathlow and Bishopton. The agreement under which this bulk supply is to be given also includes provision for this main laying scheme to be extended to the parish of Wilmcote in the area of the Alcester Rural District Council. This supply will be available to consumers during September 1947. Arrangements have also been made for a similar extension of water mains on the south side of the Borough for the provision of water supplies in the parish of Alderminster by arrangement with the Stratford-on-Avon Rural District Council. Main laying is practically completed and supplies will be available to consumers during the summer months of 1947.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The following parishes experienced shortages of water during the year:-

Alderminster. The yield of the shallow wells existing in this parish showed no improvement. Supplies were carted to tanks fixed in the village twice weekly, in order to augment the supplies.

The scheme for taking a piped supply from the Borough of Stratford-on-Avon through the R.A.F. Station at Atherstone is now in course of execution and it is hoped that standpipes will be available in the early part of the New Year.

Admington. The fall in yield from the springs at Upper Lark Stoke caused a temporary shortage during the summer months. It was found necessary to replace the local supply by drawing from the North Cotswold source.

Loxley. The spring which normally supplies this parish fell considerably during the year and it was necessary to resort to pumping water from an emergency supply derived from a well adjoining the reservoir.

Kington. Additional supplies were obtained from the borehole source, although no great difficulty was experienced in supplying this village.

Bearley. The whole of the supply from this village was obtained from the high level tank at R.A.F. Station, Snitterfield. The Northern water scheme was unable to supply owing to failure of the Livefidge Hill reservoir.

Long Marston and Dorsington. This supply is drawn from the Evesham Rural District source. Some shortage was experienced during the latter part of the year and restrictions had to be imposed.

Extensions. The work of laying a new main to the parish of Alderminster has been commenced during the year. The extension of the R.A.F. scheme at Snitterfield to supply the parish of Snitterfield and parts of the parishes of Old Stratford and Drayton and Billesley has also been commenced.

The bulk of the labour employed in carrying out these works was obtained from the local P.O.W. Camps.

General. 40% of the houses in this Rural District are connected to a pipe supply or standpipe.

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR.

Water Supplies.

The 27 parishes of the area are mainly situated on the Lower Lias Clay and the majority of the villages are supplied with spring water issuing from cappings of inferior Oolite on the hills, or small superficial deposits on high ground in the Middle and Upper Lias. The small township of Shipston-on-Stour and the villages of Honington, Barcheston and Willington obtain water from a limestone cap at Ebrington and are the only parishes which use water piped in from outside the area.

Excluding the Shipston-on-Stour system the supplies are very small and incapable of serving the population adequately. The small piped systems feeding to standpipes or public wells cannot be used for full "water laid on to the house" schemes and the lack of water for agriculture and dairy farming is most pronounced.

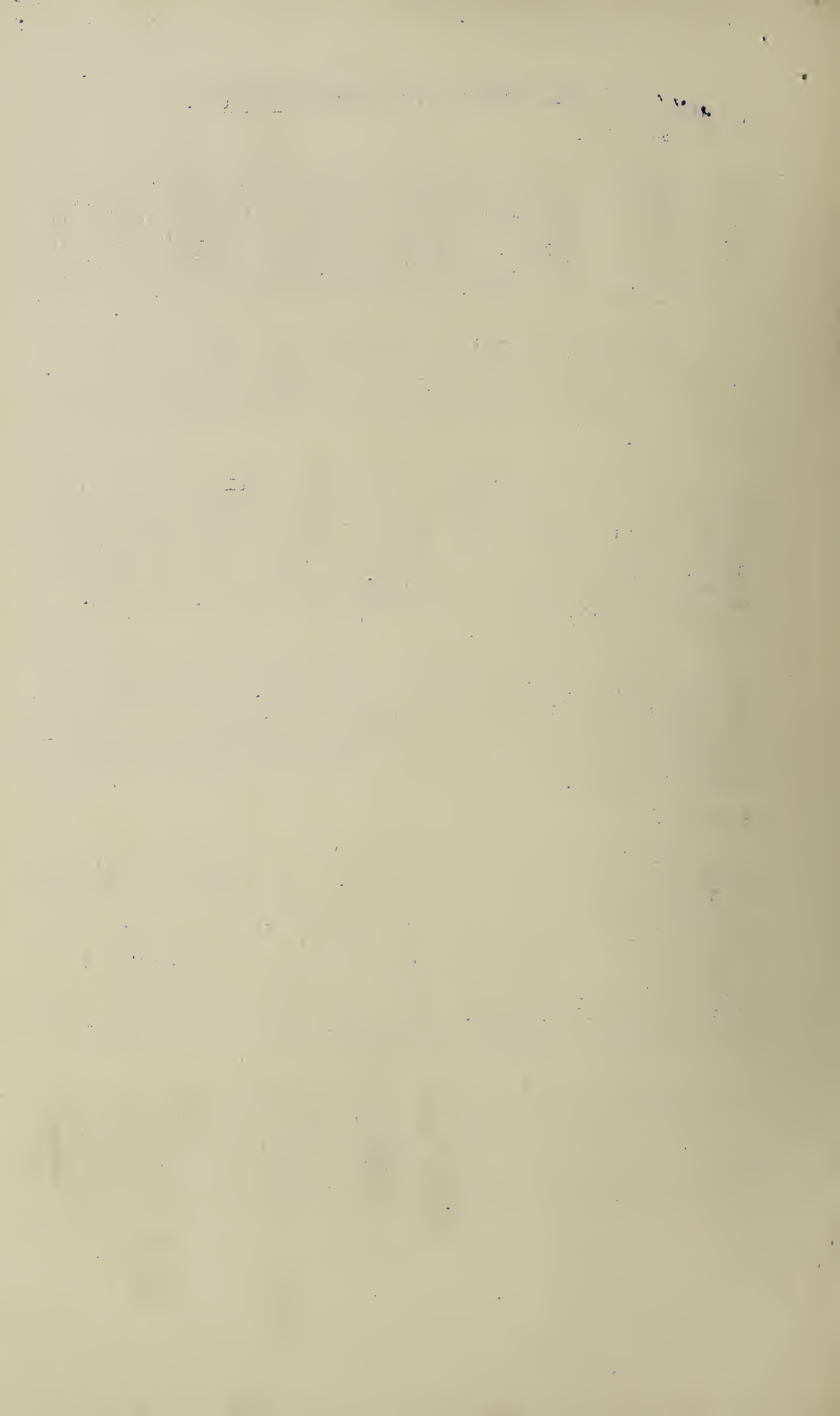
In drought periods many wells and public supplies run dry or yield low quantities and in several cases water has to be carted to the villages each year. The Council have had the whole question under review for some time and the Consulting Engineers have advised on a scheme to take water from the river Stour. This will provide for a full supply of water to all parts of the area both for domestic and agricultural needs. The draft of this scheme is now deposited with the Ministry of Health for consideration.

Works of improvement have been carried out during the year at Oxhill, Brailles, Tysoe and Shipston. Maintenance of the old systems is heavy and wasteful and every effort is made to keep the supplies in as satisfactory condition as is possible, but the full needs cannot be met until a new source of water is located on the river Stour used and a complete comprehensive scheme installed.

Sewerage.

The provision of sewers and methods of sewage treatment in the area leave much to be desired. The township of Shipston-on-Stour and the village of Honington alone have proper sewers and full treatment is applied only at Shipston-on-Stour. In the remaining villages various lengths of sewers have been laid with a view to incorporating them in full sewage schemes at a later date, or existing culverts are utilised in an effort to reduce nuisance. Treatment is effected by septic tanks or land irrigation in ditches etc. These are kept cleaned out and in good condition. During the year additional sections of sewers have been laid at Brailles and Butlers Marston.

The problem of sewerage disposal is difficult on account of the scattered nature of the area, but the Council have instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare reports upon the subject as a whole and to submit proposals for the proper sewerage of the entire rural district, either by individual village systems or by the grouping of villages where the geographical conditions permit.



THE RURAL DISTRICT OF ALCESTER.

The supply of water to the piped area during the year varied somewhat in quantity. The Bidford and Salford areas were well supplied, but owing to the large consumption at Studley the 4" main supplying this village is inadequate to convey all the water the village requires and there is lack of pressure during the times of maximum demand. In a number of instances upstairs lavatories were unable to be flushed. A scheme of augmentation prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers has been forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

The area supplied by the Alcester Waterworks Company, including Alcester, Great Alne and Arrow, is satisfactory in quantity and quality.

Wilmcote. During the year under review the new mains for a supply from the Borough of Stratford-on-Avon, in conjunction with the Stratford-on-Avon Rural District Council, were in course of construction. This area is very badly off for water both in quantity and quality.

Population Supplied. The percentage of dwellings supplied has not materially altered from the report of 1944. Taking the District as a whole 90% of the population now have a piped water supply available.

THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Inspect- ions (2)	Number of	
		Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	11	1	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	21	1	
Workplaces (other than out- workers' premises) .. .	3		
	35	2	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Number of Defects			No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
		Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness	2	2			
Want of ventilation					
Overcrowding					
Want of drainage of floors...					
Other nuisances..	7	7			
Sanitary accommodation:-					
(a) insufficient	3	3			
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2			
(c) not separate for sexes					
Total	14	14			

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	15	12	3	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	23	13	2	
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises).. ...	18	11	1	
Total	61	36	6	

Cases in which Defects were Found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	2	2			
Inadequate ventilation ...	1	1			
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient ...	2	1		2	
(b) unsuitable or defective					
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1			
Other offences (not incl. offences relating to Homework) ...	1	1		1	
Total	7	6		3	

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	10	21	12	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	13	28	12	
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises) ..				
Total	23	49	24	

2 Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	13	13			
Unreasonable temperature ...	1	1			
Inadequate ventilation ...	3	3			
Sanitary conveniences:-					
(a) insufficient	1	1			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6			
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences (not incl. offences relating to Homework) ...					
Total	24	24			

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ALCESTER

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	3	8		
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)...	26	48		
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises).				
Total	29	56		

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness	1	1		1	
Sanitary conveniences:-					
(a) insufficient					
(b) unsuitable or defective	5	5		3	
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences (not incl. offences relating to Homework)	1	1		1	
Total	7	7		5	

